

Delta Independent Science Board Educational Briefing Questionnaire

Please provide short written responses to the following:

1. Program Title: SFCWA Coordinated Science Program
2. Lead Agency/Department for Program: State and Federal Contractors Water Agency
3. Brief Description of Program: The Science Program is focused in several areas: nutrients, contaminants, predation, habitat, non-native species, and development of models including life cycle models for listed fish species. The Program is currently supporting and facilitating the Estuary Monitoring Workgroup that is developing a data and information portal on the Bay Delta as part of the California Water Quality Monitoring Council.
4. Purpose and Objectives of Program: The Science Program's implementing strategy is to: *"Research and publish findings on Delta ecosystem stressors toward developing management actions that further California's co-equal goals of a restored Delta ecosystem and water supply reliability."*

The emerging core functions of the Science Program include:

- Support Research (fund, initiate, and evaluate)
 - Fill critical gaps and evaluate key assumptions.
 - Synthesize scientific information: assess existing status and trend data, construct and run quantitative models, analyze and integrate new and existing information.
- Communicate results.
- Develop partnerships to conduct collaborative investigations, build relationships, and leverage resources.

5. Timeline for Program Objectives: The Science Program is ongoing and envisioned to be a long term effort.

6. Current Status of Program: The Coordinated Science Program was initiated in February 2010. A Science Program Manager was hired in September 2010. The program manager just completed an assessment of the progress and value of the program in order to improve its effectiveness. Progress in program development and implementation is ongoing, with the goal of continual improvement. In the upcoming year there will be an emphasis on improving scientific input and capacity, and conducting collaborative studies. The program is piloting an annual planning and external peer review process.

7. Contact Information for Lead Staff of this Program:

Name	Valerie Connor
Title	Science Manager
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8. Associated Total Annual Budget for Program: \$2,500,000.00

9. URL, if a Website is Available: sfcwa.org (under construction)

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10. How does adaptive management play a role in your program? The development of the Science Program itself is being adaptively managed. We have developed, and we track a suite of performance measures, that when considered collectively will promote the effective management of the Science Program.

A major program component for SFCWA is habitat restoration; adaptive management of each project will be used to enhance each site and inform new restoration efforts.

11. Any additional information that would be helpful to understand the program: The State and Federal Contractors Water Agency (SFCWA) was formed in August 2009 as a Joint Powers Authority to work collaboratively on issues of mutual interest. The SFCWA Board adopted the following mission statement: *"Assist SFCWA member agencies in assuring a sufficient, reliable and high quality water supply for their customers; maximize the efficient operation and integration of the State Water Project and federal Central Valley Project."* The member agencies of SFCWA all realized the need for scientific research on Delta ecosystem stressors. This recognition resulted in the creation of the SFCWA Coordinated Science Program.

Thank you very much for taking the time to respond to this questionnaire. Please return your completed questionnaire to Gina Ford (gina.ford@deltacouncil.ca.gov) no later than October 6, 2011.